(c) whether the Official Receivers are paid from the interest so accumulated or from Imperial funds; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the interest collected on the amount collected by the Official Receiver is credited to the general revenues?

A.—(a) Under article 21 of the Madras Financial and Account Code, Official Receivers are permitted to open accounts for the deposit of moneys received by them in their official capacity with a branch of the Imperial Bank of India where such a branch is available. Where no such branch exists, an account may, with the approval of the Local Government, be opened with any other bank.

(b) When an account is opened with the Imperial Bank, it allows interest on the amount of deposit at 2 per cent when the daily balance does not fall below Rs. 10,000.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1289.

(d) Estates of over Rs. 10,000 are credited roughly with the interest they would have got if invested singly and balance of interest realized is credited to Provincial revenues as the charges on account of Official Receivers, establishments and contingencies are met from such funds.

Forests

Number of Gazetted Forest Officers in South Kanara district.

*1480 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Gazetted Forest Officers at present in the South Kanara district as compared with that in 1917–18 and 1922–23; and

(b) the reasons for their increase, if any?

A.—(a) The number of gazetted officers in the three years is as follows:—

1917–18	3
1922–23	4
1929	4

(b) There is an increase only when compared with the year 1917–18. It is due to the posting of a new Assistant Conservator (Mr. J. Banerji) for training in the South Mangalore division.

Jails

Burial of Muslim prisoners by private societies.

*1481 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are paying any amount to any society which has undertaken the burial of Muslim prisoners who die in the prisons in the Presidency;

(b) whether the Government have received any memorial from any Muslim association or public body who have undertaken to do this work;